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☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial.—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS. 1. Any person who takes a paper regularly from the Post-office, whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

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VOL. VIII. PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 21, 1870. NO. 82.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

THE WAR.

TWO GERMAN VICTORIES.

6,000 PRISONERS CAPTURED AT NUITZ.

The Prussians Around Paris on the Defensive.

BOMBARDMENT OF PARIS DECLARED IMPOSSIBLE

Strength of French Armies in the Field.

GERMANS FALLING BACK BEFORE BOURBAKI.

ENGLAND.

Prospects of Peace Improving.

LONDON, December 20, 10 A. M.—The prospects of peace are looking much improved this morning. It is thought in Berlin and Frankfort, that the peace basis proposed by the neutral Powers, with some amendments will soon be adopted.

Military movements in the field continue active and the French are evidently endeavoring to concentrate.

One of the German armies is falling back before Bourbaki.

The German Army Around Paris on the Defensive.

The *Telegraph* has a special from Brussels, saying that the late heavy calls for landwehr denotes the weakness of the German army of investment around Paris, and that its operations are now defensive instead of offensive.

One or two sorties like that of last night, (sic,) and the siege of Paris will be raised.

German Siege Guns Worthless.

A special from Frankfort says that a month will be required before the bombardment of Paris will be possible. The guns in use by the German army at the present time are utterly worthless for such purpose, and, besides that, Versailles itself is nearly within range of the French guns.

The Germans Capture Nuitz.

Advices have been received announcing that the Germans have stormed Nuitz, in the department of Cote D'Or, on the 18th instant. The French withdrew at nightfall. The Germans lost three hundred killed and wounded. Among the wounded was Prince William, of Baden, who was shot through the cheek.

Opening of the French Coasting Trade.

LONDON, December 20.—The decree opening the French coasting trade to all nations is due to the obstruction of railways, especially in northeastern France.

It is said by the Cologne *Gazette* that Havre is exempted from blockade by the French Government.

General Gleimer was wounded in the battle at Nuitz Friday.

Two French Defeats—The Prussians Take 6,000 Prisoners at Nuitz.

LONDON, December 20.—The French forces attacked by General Werder at Nuitz were in large numbers, and held a strong position. The Germans captured 6,000 prisoners, together with the town.

The French were pursued southward on Monday. A French force 10,000 strong has been defeated at Paisley and Montlaville.

The Situation as Viewed from the Pro-French Standpoint.

Special to the World.]

LONDON, December 20.—Our Versailles correspondent, after making a tour of the German lines, writes on the 15th quite positively that it will be impossible ever to bombard Paris effectively. The anxiety of the Germans for peace is intense. The German troops are on the point of mutiny. Rats are eaten in Paris only on wagers, and for passtime. The bombardment of Paris is postponed. The bombardment of Versailles is expected every moment. The French have in position guns capable of throwing shells through the King's palace and driving the Germans from their works east and north of Versailles.

Our correspondent with the Tenth corps at Vendome, writing on the 18th, says that after severe fighting on the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th on both banks of the Loire, the Germans occupy Preteral, Vendome and Blois. General Chanzy is retiring slowly and in tolerable order, hoping to join the Twenty-first corps under General Jaures and the forces near Le Mans and Coulie. The fighting was tedious and bloody. The Germans needed rest.

Prussians Threatening Chateau Renault—Germany Suffering from a Scarcity of Coal.

PARIS, 2:05 P. M., December 20.—The Prussian columns yesterday threatened Chateau Renault, fifteen miles northwest of Orleans.

Military critics are of the opinion that the ports around Paris secure the city from bombardment.

Germany is suffering from a scarcity of coal. The working of many of the mines has ceased, the miners having been drafted into the army.

The Army of the Loire.

Special to the Herald.]

LONDON, December 20.—The Army of the Loire has simply moved some fifty miles north of their former positions, and there joined the rest of the army. An end to the Army of the Loire is not just yet.

The Failure of Ducrot's Sortie.

Special to the Times.]

LONDON, December 20.—Your correspondent, "Malakoff," writing from Paris on the 12th, says: "We have arrived at the starvation point. The supply of meat will last but a few days longer. To save fuel many of the inhabitants remain in bed all day.

"If it had been properly timed, Ducrat's sortie would have succeeded. In the event of the failure of the next sortie, Ducrat, Favre and others of our Government will leave Paris by balloon to prosecute the war in the provinces. Trochu will remain until the surrender of the city."

A New Phase of the War—Ducrot Expected to Make Another Effort to Break the German Lines—German Reinforcements Constantly Arriving.

LONDON, December 20.—A correspondent of the *Herald*, writing from Versailles on the 15th, says: We have entered on a new and perplexing phase of war as far as Paris is concerned. Ducrot has not entered Paris, but remains at Vincennes. It is certain that he contemplates a renewal of his attempt to break through between the junction of the army of Chanzy, who is gallantly endeavoring to fight his way northward. We have entered another period of ominous silence, which is probably the precursor of a new storm of fire that will swallow up more thousands of human lives. Meanwhile reinforcements are arriving rapidly, about five thousand daily. The new year will see upwards of 160,000 old soldiers recalled to the ranks after spending years in the occupations of peace, and gathered round Paris, strengthening the deep lines of investment which death, disease and sickness have recently weakened. The guardianship in Germany of 250,000 prussians has been entrusted to the Landwehr, who are now called out. With the exception of boys and old men, the whole manhood of the fatherland is under arms.

FRANCE.

Second Change of Base—Successful Strategy of the Loire Army.

Special to the Herald.]

LE MANS, December 16.—There has been a second change of base. This diffusion of the army of the Loire is successful strategy, as it brings the fighting nearer to Paris. The immense stores accumulated at Blois and Orleans, designed for revictualling Paris, were all saved. The Prussians did not capture a single car load, which is sufficient answer to the claim that they had routed the army of the Loire at Polay. After leaving Orleans the army of the Loire made a flank movement on Vendome. It might have been easy to defend Tours, but both armies cut loose. The country presents the same facilities for the rapid changes of base as Grant found on the seaboard of Virginia.

PRUSSIA.

Cause of the Failure of Bombardment.

BERLIN, December 20.—The *Cross Gazette* of this city says the cause previously given for the failure to open the bombardment of Paris is incorrect. The failure is from the transportation of material and heavy guns will be shortly overcome, and further action will be guided altogether by military considerations.

BELGIUM.

Bismarck's Note to Belgium.

BRUSSELS, December 20.—The government has declined to publish Bismarck's note or the answer thereto, before the latter reached King William.

LUXEMBURG.

Letter From the King of Holland.

LUXEMBURG, December 20.—The King of Holland, in a letter to the Government of Luxemburg, says: "Let us together defend the treaty of 1867, the honor and independence of this Duchy."

EASTERN QUESTION.

Abolition of the Scheidt Dues.

BERLIN, December 20.—The Diet of Mecklenburg has voted to pay its full share of the amount required for the abolition of the Scheidt dues.

Opening of the Wurtemburg Chambers.

STUTTGARDT, December 20.—The King of Wurtemburg opened the Chambers yesterday. In his speech he refused to the glorious successes of the German army. Their companionship in arms had kindled a desire for political unity, failing which the historic events of the year lack consecration. He urges the objects to recognize in the Federal treaties lately concluded scope for the development of the nation and her institutions. A bill will be introduced at once authorizing the present taxation to further war measures, and for the completion of railways.

Speech by King William of Prussia.

BERLIN, December 20.—King William of Prussia has received at Versailles an address from the Reichstag. In a speech in reply thereto, delivered to a deputation of that body, the King returned his thanks for services voted for the prosecution of the war, which has secured national unity, and signified his acceptance of the dignity of Emperor, tendered by the unanimous voice of the princes, free towns and the German nation.

Prussia Has No Designs on Luxemburg.

LONDON, December 20.—The *Kreuz Zeitung* denies that Prussia has any designs upon LUXEMBURG, and affirms that she received to submit to arbitration her complaints relative to the violation of neutrality by the Government of the Duchy, with a view to a claim for indemnity.

Bombardment Impossible—Strength of French Armies in the Field—More Marching than Fighting.

NEW YORK, December 20.—*The Herald's* Brussels correspondent telegraphs this morning that the bombardment of Paris is declared to be impossible. It is not humanity which restrains the Prussians, but it is simply an impossibility for them to succeed, as they have neither the number nor calibre of guns necessary. They have only five hundred guns, mainly twenty-four pounders, while the French outworks which command the batteries can destroy them the moment they open fire.

Paris has now two months supply of food.

A correspondent writes from Verdone that neither of the French armies commanded by Chanzy and Bourbaki number less than 190,000 men, and they can draw reinforcements from other parts of France of nearly double that number. The appearance of the French armies is favorable, many of the men are small in stature, but the majority are large, athletic fellows. I have seen whole companies of the Grand Monades, which presented the appearance of comprising picked men. All that is necessary is the getting of these men accustomed to stand fire. They are raw troops now, but, as was the case in the United States during the rebellion, steadiness on the battlefield was sure to come.

A Vendome correspondent writes as follows on the 14th: Manoeuvering is the order of the day with the French army commanded by General Chanzy, and the Germans under the Duke of Mecklenburg and Prince Frederick Charles, and as a consequence there are much more exhausting marches than hard fighting at present.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

John Bright Resigns the Presidency of the Board of Trade—England Declines to Take the Initiative in Reopening the Alabama Claims.

John Bright Resigns.

LONDON, December 20.—John Bright has resigned the Presidency of the Board of Trade.

England Will Not Take the Initiative in Reopening the Alabama Claims.

A full text of President Grant's message is published here to-day for the first time. The *Times*, in its comments, says that if the President expects England to take the initiative for reopening negotiations on the Alabama question he will be disappointed. It was Americans who rejected the last settlement, and that settlement was framed at Washington.

Reception of Commodore Ashbury.

LONDON, December 20.—Commodore Ashbury was met by throngs of friends on his arrival at Liverpool from America, and was subsequently entertained at a banquet given in his honor at the Clarence Hotel.

The Alabama Business.

The Manchester *Post*, in an editorial on the Alabama claims, refers to the services to the United States at the British Court of Charles Francis Adams and Reverdy Johnson, and says the present attitude of America is condemned by the record of her own ministers.

Ought to be Recalled.

An American naval captain is at Constantinople, manufacturing torpedoes and material of war for use in case of war against Russia.

John Bright a Pensioner.

Special to the World.]

LONDON, December 20.—John Bright has resigned with the pension due to a minister of two years' services. His two years ended on the 16th inst.

Parliamentary Conflict in Italy.

LONDON, December 20.—A correspondent of the *Herald* writes from Rome on the 15th: A severe parliamentary conflict is going on at Florence, as regards the future status of the Pontiff, as an important question submitted to the Government, to take precedence over all others. The extreme left will endeavor to destroy the peace of the Sacred College and the whole body episcopal. The extreme right will try to save as much as possible of the Court power and dynasty of St. Peter.

The question of the transfer of the capital caused a brisk encounter between the opposite partisans. The ministerial project for guaranteeing the independence of the Supreme Pontiff, and free exercise of the spiritual office of the Holy See, consists of the following articles: First, personal inviolability of the Pope; second, the palace guards shall be retained; third, they receive annually of 3,000 in lire for the guard and former civil list; fourth, the Papal residence to be free from taxes and to be located at the Vatican and Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome, and Castel Vandolfo in the country, and they shall be free from the ordinary jurisdiction of the States; fifth, the same immunity shall extend to such localities occupied by the general council of the church; sixth, criminals and misdemeanants within such localities and taking refugee there, shall not be pursued by agents of justice or arrested without the sanction of the Pope or the President's conclave; seventh, such residence as aforementioned shall be free from appropriations of the laws; eighth, no searches or sequestrations of any works or documents shall be made in the offices of any sacred congregations invested with attributes by the Pope; ninth, the Pontiff shall enjoy freedom in publishing the acts of his ministry; tenth, cardinals and ecclesiastics taking part in these acts shall be free from molestation from the government; eleventh, there shall be free correspondence between the Pope and the whole episcopate; twelfth, the postal and telegraph offices in the Vatican shall be free of charge; thirteenth, the papal legates accredited by the Pope shall enjoy the same privileges as other ministers;—fourteenth, the Pontiff's spiritual and temporal rights engaged by the citizens of Montgomery county for self-protection.

A fair for the benefit of the wounded soldiers of the German armies was opened at Philadelphia last evening, at Horticultural Hall. The fair on the opening night was a complete success. The French fair is still continued at Concert Hall and has been very successful.

Rothermel's great painting of the Battle of Gettysburg was unveiled in the Academy of Music at Philadelphia last night. There was a large audience present.

The Commercial Exchange of Philadelphia celebrated the completion of their new hall by a grand promenade concert and hop last evening. The crush was tremendous.

A cold snap seems to have succeeded the snow storm last Monday all through the Northwest. At Sterling, Ill., Madison, Wis., and several other points the thermometer was down to zero.

Ex-Governor Letcher, of Virginia, is much better, and now out of danger.

The steamer Japan, from China and Japan, three days behind time, entered the port of San Francisco last evening after dark. Passing North Point she ran into a vessel anchored in the stream with a tremendous crash, then drifted two blocks, colliding with the British ship Marian, carrying away the bowsprit and fore-rigging of the latter, and finally came to anchor off Jackson street wharf. The Japan's steering gear was disabled and it appears she received considerable damage otherwise.

Sylvester V. Papin, an old citizen, and prominent real estate man of St. Louis, died at San Francisco on Sunday evening, whither he had gone for his health.

Yesterday was the coldest day of the season in St. Louis. Mercury at 9 A. M., 12; at noon, 15; at 3 P. M., 18; and at 6 P. M., 16. The thermometer at Saginaw in the afternoon, and the Northern packets have stopped running. If this weather continues two or three days, navigation will be entirely suspended.

The Eagle smelting works at Hamilton, Nevada, were accidentally burned on Monday. Loss ten thousand dollars; no insurance.

The mills at Salem, Oregon, run by water power are all stopped by the cold; the thermometer at Salem at sunrise yesterday was 18 degrees below the freezing; at Hamilton 1 degree below zero.

WASHINGTON.

Remarkable Scene in the House.

An Illinois Member Makes a Personal Explanation in Very Bad Taste—General Schenck's Nomination to be Sent In To-Day—Pomeroy Persists in Introducing Land Subsidy Bills—The Winnebago Chief's Last Little Job—The Southern Express Company.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1870.

A Remarkable Personal Explanation.

There was a remarkable scene in the House this morning, when Ingersoll, of Illinois, made a personal explanation. He referred to an article in the New York *Post*, criticising him, and went on to say that the article was not inspired by William Cullen Bryant, who, if he knew him (Ingersoll), would probably not have allowed its publication. But the editor of the *Post* had a brother, John H. Bryant, who lived in Ingersoll's District, who was a bad man, and he had inspired the attack. Ingersoll then boasted of having twice secured Bryant's removal from the Collectorship of his District, and said he was now officially reported a defaulter to the amount of over $130,000. As soon as Ingersoll sat down, Dawes took the floor. He said he had known J. H. Bryant from his youth, and his character was spotless. If he was a defaulter he (Dawes) should lose his faith in human nature. Farnsworth and Judd, of Illinois, both testified in a strong and earnest manner to the high integrity and personal worth of Mr. Bryant, whom they had known long and intimately. Ingersoll was thus put on the defensive, and made a very poor figure. He modified his assertion that Bryant was a defaulter, by saying he was reported as being in default to the Government, which members at once explained as the situation of one of the best officers of the Government, and was the result of the peculiar system by which the Government kept its accounts, affording not the slightest presumption of dishonesty. Ingersoll then lost his temper, and in an excited manner proceeded to make insinuations against the private character of Bryant, which, in view of the place, occasion and ladies in the galleries were simply low, contemptible and insulting. The upshot of this episode was that Ingersoll's personal explanation damaged himself about as much as it was possible for a man to do in so short a time.

Schenck

To-day met with the Committee of Ways and Means for the last time. He expects his nomination to be sent in to-morrow. Hooper, of Massachusetts, will succeed him as chairman of the committee.

Senator Pomeroy's Land Bills.

Senator Pomeroy, it begins to be feared, will endanger his amicable relations with the President by his persistent devotion to a policy which the latter strongly disapproves. Notwithstanding the rejection of the message against more grants of public land to corporations, Pomeroy is continually introducing such measures. He got in another to-day.

Cameron's Last Job.

Senator Cameron rushed through the Senate the other day his bill incorporating the Southern Express Company, and it has already been introduced into the House. This is the same institution which the House Committee on Commerce unanimously rejected against its own judgment. The reason is well understood by members to be nothing better than a job.

The Election in Philadelphia.

The election to-day in Philadelphia to fill the place in the Senate, left vacant by Cattell, resulted in the election of a Democrat. This makes the Senate Democratic. The House is Republican. The anti-Cameron men here are chargine the defeat upon the Cameron Republicans, who, they assert, absented themselves from the polls because the party had refused to nominate a candidate of their selection.

Bill to Regulate Ocean Telegraphs.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs yesterday completed their consideration of the ocean telegraph bill. Mr. Wood to report it. The bill is general in its terms, and authorized the laying of cables from any port of the United States by any parties under certain restrictions. The rights of States in the premises as to harbors, &c., are left entirely out of view or in abeyance. It interferes with nobody's right, and puts all cables on the same terms. There are penalties for interfering with cables, and restrictions for proper and safe landing of cables. The bill will avoid action by Congress on single applications, as telegraph parties, under the general provision, can severally file their applications with the Department of State, and complying with the requirements of commerce and business.

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The opinion is growing that the Republicans in that the Republicans will be beaten at the election in Georgia, which takes place this week. This is the view taken by well informed men.

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Adjournment virtually takes place 48-morrow night, so far as the house is concerned, it having been decided to-day to devote Thursday and Friday in committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

PROPOSED INTER-OCEANIC RAILWAY.

Colonel J. J. Williams, President of the Tehuantepec Railway Company, with his corps of engineers, went on board the Nipsic at Norfolk yesterday and sailed this morning for Mexico, to commence the construction of railway across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec January 1st, 1871. The officers and men of the Nipsic, as well as those of the Kansas and Marlborough, with Capt. Shufeldt's ship canal exploring expedition, are now at Minatitlan and will be present, under the orders from the Navy Department, at the ceremony of the breaking of ground on the line of this new inter-oceanic railway, which is destined to be of vast importance to the commerce of the United States. The United States consul at Minatitlan has been invited by State Department to be present on the occasion and report the proceedings to that Department.

LOUDONVILLE, O.

Mr. John Smith Has an Increase in His Family —Thirty-Nine Pounds of Smith Divided Between Three Babies.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LOUDONVILLE, O., December 20, 1870.

Mr. John Smith, living nine miles south of here, was presented by his wife on the morning of the 15th with three little Smiths, weighing thirty-nine pounds. John was still alive at six o'clock last evening.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

THE CONVENTION OF MANAGERS IN ERIE.

ERIE, December 20.—The railroad men were in caucus here until a late hour last night. More officials arrived this morning, and the convention is proceeding with closed doors this morning. The prospect for a satisfactory arrangement for pooling earnings is regarded by outsiders as somewhat doubtful. The New York Central is understood to regard the project with indifference. A canvass of the convention shows that the western men are not enthusiastic for the pooling plan. Augustus Schell, Vice President of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad, is President of the Convention, and H. H. Huston, of the Pennsylvania Central, is Secretary. The hospitalities of the city have been tendered the visitors by the City Council. At four o'clock this afternoon they will visit the several manufactories where natural gas is used as fuel, and the natural gas works.

ERIE, PA., December 20.—At the invitation of the city authorities, the members of the Railroad Convention to-day went to the interior gas wells of the city, several manufactories where no other fuel is used, and many houses which are warmed and lighted throughout by gas. The Convention has adopted resolutions expressive of their appreciation of the great practical value of the discovery.

To-night the Convention resumed its session. It is understood that the pooling project has been abandoned. Efforts are making to settle upon a freight and passenger tariff satisfactory to all concerned. Everything thus far has been harmonious. It is believed the Erie and Pennsylvania Railroads are acting in concert. Nothing definite will be known until the convention dissolves, which will be on Thursday or Friday.

DIVIDEND DECLARED.

BALTIMORE, December 20.—The Central Ohio Railroad Company has declared a dividend of three per cent. for the past six months on its preferred and common stock, payable at the Western National Bank of Baltimore after the 1st inst.

CINCINNATI, December 20.—It is claimed here by the friends of the proposed Cincinnati and Dayton short line that the Baltimore and Ohio is secretly proceeding for the lease of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad to the Pennsylvania Central, as reported; that the object is to unload stock and prevent the building of new roads

NORTH CAROLINA

Impeachment of Gov. Holden—Barn Burning and Other Outrages Charged to the Negro Union League.

RALEIGH, N. C., December 20.—At eleven o'clock to-day the Board of Managers appointed by the House to conduct the impeachment of Gov. Holden, attended by the Speaker and members of the House of Representatives, proceeded to the bar of the Senate and formally submitted the articles of impeachment. After the conclusion of the proceedings the Lieutenant Governor vacated his seat as President of the Senate, and shortly afterwards took charge of the executive office. Gov. Holden made no opposition to his taking possession of the office.

By the confession of a young negro it has been ascertained that all the barn burning and depredations committed in this and adjoining counties for the last year were the result of a conspiracy, formed on the part of the negro Union League. Forty names of conspirators, in the confession of the author, are given. Some arrests have been made, and officers are in hot pursuit of others.

CUBA.

Departure of De Rodas—Additional Troops Sent Into the Field Against the Insurgents—German Vessels Seized—Safety—Rumored Capture of the Insurgent Vice President.

HAVANA, December 18.—On Saturday Captain General De Rodas and General Santos sailed for Spain. Yesterday General Valmaseda sent into the field against the rebels five hundred soldiers who were doing duty about the city. At present the volunteers and regulars of Matanzas, numbering 2,000, relieving the regulars, who may now be used to aid in suppressing the rebellion.

HAVANA, December 18.—German steamers New York, from New Orleans, and Hanover, from Bremen, have arrived here, escaping the French cruisers.

A rumor, which is not confirmed, had spread that a Spanish gunboat had captured the Cuban Vice President Aznillia. The news is discredited. Exchange on England and the United States is declining rapidly. Speculators pay high prices for sugar.

HARRISBURG.

Dechert Elected to the Senate.

Majority for the Democracy, 1,343—The Result of Apathy of the Anti-Cameron Men—A New Move in the State Treasurer Contest—A New Ring in the Field—A Member of the Present Congress to be Run In as a Compromise Candidate.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, December 20, 1870.

There is a good deal of excitement here over the news from Philadelphia. About eight o'clock the first dispatch announced Dechert's majority at 1,100, and subsequent dispatches made it twelve, thirteen fifty and fifteen hundred. The Republicans were incredulous, the Democrats jubilant. The latest dispatch gives Dechert 1,343. Many attribute this revolution in the First District to the apathy of the anti-Cameron men, it having been reported that Lindell had pledged himself to Cameron when the latter was in Philadelphia last week.

Apparently everything with regard to State Treasurer remains in *statu quo*, but there is a nice little plot being concocted which may carry consternation into the ranks of both the Mackey and anti-Mackey factions. The friends of a member of Congress, whose term will expire March 4, are making preparations to push his claim vigorously, and think they can elect him as a compromise candidate. This ring embraces some prominent politicians, all of whom are sanguine of success.

The Commonwealth *vs.* the Credit Mobilier is still on trial, but will probably be concluded to-morrow.

GENERAL AMNESTY.

Debate on the Bill in the House.

Butler's Peculiar Tactics Brought Into Play—The Question to be Decided To-Day.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1870.

The amnesty matter came up in the House again to-day, but did not get finished. The only speech of much interest to the floor or galleries was that of Bingham, which was a good specimen of his force and rhetoric. He objected to Butler's bill for various plausible reasons, and advocated his own amendment with which he coincided in principle. He announced that if his amendment was rejected, he should vote for the substitute of Mr. Beck, of Kentucky, as the next best thing. He said he would not support the proposition for unrestricted amnesty introduced by Farnsworth, because he did not believe the country was prepared for so sweeping a measure. During the delivery of Bingham's speech, most of the members present gathered around his chair, several standing during the whole time. Butler sat on the Speaker's desk. The debate was continued during the afternoon by ten and fifteen minute speeches, mostly from Southern Representatives. When the hour for closing the general debate had been well understood by members to be nothing better than a job.

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The election to-day in Philadelphia to fill the place in the Senate, left vacant by Cattell, resulted in the election of a Democrat. This makes the Senate Democratic. The House is Republican. The anti-Cameron men here are chargine the defeat upon the Cameron Republicans, who, they assert, absented themselves from the polls because the party had refused to nominate a candidate of their selection.

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RAILWAY MATTERS.

THE CONVENTION OF MANAGERS IN ERIE.

ERIE, December 20.—The railroad men were in caucus here until a late hour last night. More officials arrived this morning, and the convention is proceeding with closed doors this morning. The prospect for a satisfactory arrangement for pooling earnings is regarded by outsiders as somewhat doubtful. The New York Central is understood to regard the project with indifference. A canvass of the convention shows that the western men are not enthusiastic for the pooling plan. Augustus Schell, Vice President of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad, is President of the Convention, and H. H. Huston, of the Pennsylvania Central, is Secretary. The hospitalities of the city have been tendered the visitors by the City Council. At four o'clock this afternoon they will visit the several manufactories where natural gas is used as fuel, and the natural gas works.

ERIE, PA., December 20.—At the invitation of the city authorities, the members of the Railroad Convention to-day went to the interior gas wells of the city, several manufactories where no other fuel is used, and many houses which are warmed and lighted throughout by gas. The Convention has adopted resolutions expressive of their appreciation of the great practical value of the discovery.

To-night the Convention resumed its session. It is understood that the pooling project has been abandoned. Efforts are making to settle upon a freight and passenger tariff satisfactory to all concerned. Everything thus far has been harmonious. It is believed the Erie and Pennsylvania Railroads are acting in concert. Nothing definite will be known until the convention dissolves, which will be on Thursday or Friday.

DIVIDEND DECLARED.

BALTIMORE, December 20.—The Central Ohio Railroad Company has declared a dividend of three per cent. for the past six months on its preferred and common stock, payable at the Western National Bank of Baltimore after the 1st inst.

CINCINNATI, December 20.—It is claimed here by the friends of the proposed Cincinnati and Dayton short line that the Baltimore and Ohio is secretly proceeding for the lease of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad to the Pennsylvania Central, as reported; that the object is to unload stock and prevent the building of new roads

NORTH CAROLINA

Impeachment of Gov. Holden—Barn Burning and Other Outrages Charged to the Negro Union League.

RALEIGH, N. C., December 20.—At eleven o'clock to-day the Board of Managers appointed by the House to conduct the impeachment of Gov. Holden, attended by the Speaker and members of the House of Representatives, proceeded to the bar of the Senate and formally submitted the articles of impeachment. After the conclusion of the proceedings the Lieutenant Governor vacated his seat as President of the Senate, and shortly afterwards took charge of the executive office. Gov. Holden made no opposition to his taking possession of the office.

By the confession of a young negro it has been ascertained that all the barn burning and depredations committed in this and adjoining counties for the last year were the result of a conspiracy, formed on the part of the negro Union League. Forty names of conspirators, in the confession of the author, are given. Some arrests have been made, and officers are in hot pursuit of others.

CUBA.

Departure of De Rodas—Additional Troops Sent Into the Field Against the Insurgents—German Vessels Seized—Safety—Rumored Capture of the Insurgent Vice President.

HAVANA, December 18.—On Saturday Captain General De Rodas and General Santos sailed for Spain. Yesterday General Valmaseda sent into the field against the rebels five hundred soldiers who were doing duty about the city. At present the volunteers and regulars of Matanzas, numbering 2,000, relieving the regulars, who may now be used to aid in suppressing the rebellion.

HAVANA, December 18.—German steamers New York, from New Orleans, and Hanover, from Bremen, have arrived here, escaping the French cruisers.

A rumor, which is not confirmed, had spread that a Spanish gunboat had captured the Cuban Vice President Azpillia. The news is discredited. Exchange on England and the United States is declining rapidly. Speculators pay high prices for sugar.

SECOND EDITION.

4 O'CLOCK, A. M.

STARTLING RUMORS.

The President and Senator Sumner

Unsuccessful Attempts to Make Peace—What the President Required of Col. Forney.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1870.

The bitterness manifested toward Senator Sumner by the principal leaders in the annexation movement is attracting a good deal of attention. Within the last ten days an earnest attempt was made by the friends of the President and of Mr. Sumner to bring about a better understanding, and after considerable consultation the President was approached upon the subject. He manifested much feeling, and replied emphatically that Mr. Sumner had attacked him in executive session in the Senate, had spoken bitterly of him in the street cars, and also in Boston and at the West; that on some of these occasions Sumner had attributed dishonest motives to him, and if he were not President he should hold Mr. Sumner personally responsible, and demand satisfaction of him. This somewhat startling talk put the peace-makers to sudden flight. It has also come out that officers about the President share his feelings in this matter, and one of them is reported to have gone so far as to declare that if he were not officially connected with the executive he would subject Mr. Sumner to personal violence. This whole matter is creating a great deal of talk among those who have been active in the work of annexation. The connection of Col. Forney with this difference between the Administration and Mr. Sumner has been this: He was given to understand by one of the President's staff officers that he would be expected in his paper to attack Mr. Sumner for his course on San Domingo, and his attitude toward the President. This Mr. Forney positively declined to do, on the ground that Mr. Sumner had long been and still continued one of his personal friends. This decision closed the White House against Forney.

SAN DOMINGO.

Interesting Debate in the Senate.

An Able Speech by Senator Sumner—The Character of the Documents His Resolutions Call for Hinted at—The Annexationists Very Active—No Chance for a Final Disposition of the Matter Before the Holiday Adjournment.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1870.

The contest in the Senate to-day over San Domingo was exceedingly earnest in character. What was said in debate was a small part of the matter. The side conversations were of the most animated kind, displayed among the desks by friends of Morton's resolution, and the care with which they watched the temporary absence of Senators on their side, so as to maintain there by parts at every vote, showed that the struggle on the part of the Senate was all on the floor of the Senate. There was quite a struggle over the motion to take up the resolution, Morton, Thayer, Howard, Chandler, Conkling, Carpenter and Cragin voting against the motion, and Anthony for the first test vote Carpenter, Conkling and Chandler showed their anxiety by going to the desk and overlooking the Clerk as he called the roll. When the list was finished, these Senators procured a copy, and found that the report showed the vote incorrectly and compared cases. Chandler further made himself conspicuous by going around the Senate to several members, as Howard, Nye and Thayer, and exhibited his list with a considerable degree of satisfaction.

Mr. Sumner, at the outset of the discussion, showed himself to be a more formidable opponent to the new scheme than its friends had counted upon. Before he had spoken five minutes he was interrupted by a number of time-honored rules of order in points, none of which were sustained by the Chair. Beginning by stating what his resolutions of inquiry called for, and what was not, as an authorized call of Howard that the report of his special commission last session contained all the information Sumner now asked for, he said that he wanted the two conclusions upon the basis of which the President had recommended the annexation of San Domingo to the Constitution, by which it would appear that the public domain of that Island could not be transferred. He wanted a copy of the treaty with France, which in fact was the basis upon which he stood in a large sum of money, and of which he had read in the Navy Department and the character of the rest of which he knew, and knew to be such that no Senator could vote for it with its present contents. He intimated in plain and pointed terms that what he desired to have furnished was of great significance, and such as the Senate could not afford to act on of railway statistics.

Morton and all acting with him were very uneasy under Sumner's explanation, and tried during his speech ineffectually to get a vote without further debate.

Sumner closed his remarks by stating that while his resolution simply called for that documentary information which would enable the Senate to act intelligently, Morton's proposition, if adopted, would commit the Senate to the action of the House.

The vote to take up Morton's resolution, which immediately followed Mr. Sumner's speech, was successful, the vote standing yeas 36, nays 17. Immediately upon this result, Senator Patterson, replying to the declaration of Mr. Fessenden that he proposed to refer the resolutions to the Committee on Foreign Relations. On this motion Senator Sumner demanded the yeas and nays, and here the discussion again branched out.

Mr. Schurz proceeded to show the utter impracticability of the resolutions submitted. He stated it to be an utter impossibility to attain the objects called for in the resolutions, if they were sincere, in so short a time. He was of opinion that the whole thing was a subterfuge to defer action, and with the report which would be forthcoming in sixty days according to Senator Morton's assertions, in a very effective manner.

Senator Howard struck the same vein, and rung the changes on what might be expected in the topographical, geological, physical, moral and intellectual report of the condition of the people after two months' observation. He stated that Congress cannot by joint resolution annex territory except as a State. It was only in this doctrine that Texas was admitted, and it was his opinion that the people of the United States were ready to erect San Domingo into a sovereign State. Inasmuch as the Senate had once refused to ratify the treaty of annexation, he believed it to be a humiliation on its part to take any further steps in the matter. He could see no use for the commission unless annexation was to follow. He considered the worst feature of the resolution to be that the commissioners therein mentioned were to receive compensation.

Mr. Morton immediately suggested that they were to be officers of the Government, already in its service and pay—perhaps members of Congress. This point seemed to startle the Senate, and was much ridiculed from one end of the Senate to the other—even by those who were friendly to Morton's measure. This feature was discussed the balance of the afternoon, greatly to the discomfiture of the friends of the measure. In spite of all efforts to the contrary a

The Daily Commercial.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1870.

THE rapid growth and agricultural development of the Great West is shown very simply by the fact, that the exportation of grain from Toledo, Chicago, and Milwaukee, the three principal outlets of that great territory, has increased over 11,000,000 bushels in the last year.

THE election of FRANK P. BLAIR, JR., United States Senator from Missouri is still declared to be altogether probable, if not absolutely certain. Indeed, BLAIR in his valedictory gave notice that he would probably be succeeded by a Democrat, and seemed to glory in the prospect. It seems to us that the gentleman should, if he could, have explained on what ground he justified himself in giving up his seat in the Senate to BLAIR for one more permanent on the Court of Claims Bench. If the SCHURZ and BROWN bolt, whereby BLAIR obtained the necessary strength in the Missouri Legislature, was reprehensible, what should be said about the operation that gives BLAIR the opportunity to use it? Let us hope that the threatened consequences of the bolt and operation may yet be averted, and a Republican placed in BLAIR'S seat in the Senate who will not, for even half a dozen life-time offices, vacate it for FRANK P. BLAIR.

THE Rev. Dr. F. F. ELLINWOOD, recently elected to a Professorship in the Western Theological Seminary in Allegheny city, at present occupies the position of Secretary of the Memorial Fund. He was formerly one of the editors of the New York *Evangelist*, an influential organ of the New School before the union of the two branches of the Presbyterian church. Dr. E. is described as a man of lively, vigorous talents, and is believed to be in all respects well qualified for the chair to which he has been elected. Perhaps we should rather have said *nominated*, as we suppose that the Directors of the Seminary merely recommend the candidate, election resting with the General Assembly. Custom and courtesy, however, give such weight to the action of the Directors, that it is commonly equivalent to election, they say. Dr. ELLINWOOD is understood to have declared himself "willin'."

THE vote of the House of Representatives on the proposition involving the question whether the Income tax shall be repealed, disappoints the confident expectations on the subject. The vote was a light one and may yet be reversed. Secretary BOUTWELL, it is well known, is exerting all his influence against repeal, and it is possible that with the present Congress he may succeed. The vote of Monday to continue the TAX is in strange contrast with the vote of only a week before on the KELLY resolution, and in view of it it is difficult to determine what is meant when the House makes a distinct affirmation of a principle. It was foretold, however, that the Western and Southern members would go almost in a body against repeal, on the ground that the Tax is very largely paid by the Eastern and Middle States, whose representatives as unitedly favor repeal. This is by no means an encouraging manifestation of sectionalism. But we have not seen the last of it.

WE suppose it safe to say that twenty-five per cent. of the money collected from the people of Ohio, for local purposes, is wasted or stolen; and this because an inferior class of men are elected to fill the local offices. By showing the people what they lose by this course the evil may be corrected. No city or town can afford to levy a tax of three or four per cent. Such a tax dwarfs industry by ruining business men and forcing manufactures to seek a location where they are not thus robbed.—*Cincinnati Gazette.*

These observations, as we believe, are equally applicable to Pennsylvania, and probably might be strengthened in the figures. It is one of the wonders of the times in which we live that tax payers, though they have the remedy in their own hands, submit to be plundered rather than apply it. It is not difficult to discover that there is a distinct, organized and increasing class who live off the public, and busy themselves chiefly in devising ways and means to render their condition secure and more profitable. It may with propriety be termed one of the professions, as distinct as that of the lawyer's or doctor's. They take possession of the taxes, manipulate laws and ordinances and so "fix things" that the public money must to a very great extent pass through their hands. Take any ten years together and see if the fact does not bear out the assertion. Whether or not the fact that twenty-five per cent. of the taxes annually collected from the people are either wasted or stolen is explained by this indisputable state of things, people will decide for themselves.

HEREWITH we print an article from the Pittsburgh *Gazette* on the redemption of the pledges made last fall by the Regular Republican organization relative to the reduction of the fees and salaries of local offices. It will be observed that the article admits that had not these pledges been made, "the regular ticket could not have been elected"—an admission which at once concedes the necessity for and the virtual triumph, so far as principles are concerned, of the Reform movement. At present we do not design to say much on the subject. We have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done something to bring the Republican party in Allegheny upon advance Reform ground, where it stands committed to measures which, but for the Reform movement last fall, would have been long delayed, or more likely forever ignored. The responsibility rests not with us. The question is, will they with whom it rests fully discharge it? We will simply remark, that the argument of the *Gazette* that the proposed reform measures should not be made to apply to officers elected prior to last fall, is not sound. Between incumbents and the public there is no compact or agreement, actual or implied, to maintain the salararies unchanged, nor even to continue in existence the offices. Incumbents take their chances in both respects. We find incumbents continually asking for and frequently obtaining an increase of their emoluments, never thinking of compact or agreement when they are to derive an advantage from a change. Why may not the rule be made to work both ways? If the reasoning of the *Gazette* is good, then the general Government is about to perpetrate a piece of injustice by consolidating revenue districts and reducing the number of officers—some if not all of whom have counted confidently on serving four years, and may be inconvenienced somewhat by having their arrangements predicated or these expectations interrupted. The result of the first battle for Reform was a victory,—its completeness, however, is yet to be determined. Should another trial become necessary, there can be no question about the result.

A FEW days ago we told how the memory of ARMINIUS, otherwise HERMANN, the ancient patriot and hero of the Germans, has lately been revived for the benefit of his modern countrymen in their conflict with the modern Gauls. In a late newspaper we find CÆSAR'S Commentaries cited for proof that the French of his time were quite as little to be depended upon in political matters as their descendants of the present day. CÆSAR says "experience has proved that the silly, thoughtless people (the Gauls) are easily excited by false reports, and are often misled into rash acts and resolves of the greatest consequence. The authorities therefore retain of the news what they think best, and give to the people only what they are capable of receiving." This statement of the great conqueror, when candidly weighed, does not appear very damaging. Indeed, where may a people be found even now, of whom nearly if not quite as much might not be truly said? The truth is, that while the epithets applied to the ancient French by CÆSAR justly characterize them in all ages, the facts reported in the passage quoted hardly illustrate the adjectives.

In referring to Roman testimonies concerning the ancient relations between the Gauls and the Germans, it is rather remarkable that no one, so far as we have seen, has been reminded of a noticeable passage in the third book of the Annals of TACITUS. Having detailed the preparations for a battle with the Gauls, the historian says: "Though the probability of victory made exhortation superfluous, yet SILIUS, the Roman commander, cried out that it was something for them to be ashamed of that they, the conquerors of Germany, were led against the Gauls as against enemies. A single cohort routed the rebel TUNGRIS, a single squadron scattered the Treveri, a few troops of this army put the Sequani to flight," &c. However, the passage only confirms the truth well known from other sources, that the Romans regarded the Gauls as a less warlike and less formidable enemy than the Germans. It is strange that, in recent times the fact has been so generally forgotten. At the beginning of the present struggle between the two nations, multitudes, under the influence of the common impression, confidently looked for French victory and German defeat. Forgetful of German military renown in ancient and later times, they construed German silence, German patience, and German devotion to the arts of peace, as indications of an essentially pacific and unmilitary character, while the self-assertion and martial arrogance of the French, in connection with the recollections of the NAPOLEONIC wars, caused their own estimate of themselves to be generally accepted.

AT IT AGAIN.

We call the attention of our readers to the very interesting letter of our special correspondent at Philadelphia, which will be found in another column. We had hoped that the success of the Republican candidate for Senator in the First District was better assured than our correspondent seems to think, and expect in this issue to be able to report his election by such a majority as to preclude a contest for his seat by a Democratic competitor. His known anti-Cameronism, we think, will insure his election.

It seems that the Winnebago Chief is now organizing his forces for the recovery of the Treasuryship, which is absolutely indispensable to the success of his ulterior objects, and that his rule or ruin schemes are to be pursued with unrelenting vigor. We sincerely rejoice that personalities have not hitherto entered into the contest as respects the candidates for the Treasuryship. Indeed we do not know at this time that General IRWIN is a candidate. We do not know that Mr. MACKEY is a candidate. Were this purely a personal contest between reorganized Republicans, we should probably have little or nothing to say. Indeed, we had intended to do little more than record public sentiment in this connection. It is a matter of small consequence whether Mr. MACKEY or some other representative of the CAMERON interests be put forward in the coming contest,—for contest earnest and determined, we are warranted in saying there will be. Apart from SIMON CAMERON himself and his corrupt agents and abettors, there will be no question as to men. The real question rises much higher, has important moral bearing, and bearings relating to the general welfare as affected by the management of the public funds, which will claim the attention of the entire Republican party in Pennsylvania. Is the disheartening, blighting, dissolving domination of SIMON CAMERON to be continued in Pennsylvania politics? Is an influence which has for its only foundation corruption, and for one of its means of self-perpetuation the exile of all ability and merit from the service of the State, again to be permitted to put its yoke on the neck of Republican Pennsylvania? Is every triumph of our noble and patriotic party to be turned into ashes on our lips? If so, evil has a potency in politics beyond what is generally imagined. The *success* of CAMERON and his desperadoes *now* means disintegration and defeat for the party in 1871 and 1872. His *defeat* will mean party unity and strength, and the assured Republicanism of Pennsylvania in the future.

GERMAN LANGUAGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Those German-Americans who believe that the German language is destined to flourish forever as a popular speech in this country, are able to make a considerable show of argument in favor of their belief. For instance, one of those sanguinely hopeful Pennsylvanians lately put one reason for his faith in the form of a question, which strikes the reader with some force. With comparatively few German schools and he might have said, for a long time, with few or no German newspapers, the language has maintained itself in Pennsylvania for two hundred years as a living speech, so that even now descendants of the first settlers, of the third, fourth, fifth, sixth and even of the seventh generation, speak German, belong to German churches, and read German books and newspapers. How many hundred years, then, may the language be expected to be kept alive in the Western States, where there are German schools many and good, while others are constantly founded, and where the educated German element, ecclesiastical and secular, exerts an ever increasing influence?

The facts alleged, as we think, are not so logically powerful as they may seem, when unconditionally stated. They certainly do not justify the confidence with which they are sometimes insisted upon. In the first place, the Pennsylvania generations of the past were slow people. Those of English descent were slow; the German-Americans were still slower. Only a few years have elapsed since the former became awake to the importance of common schools, and other needful reforms. Within a very short time not a few professes have vanished from among them, which had been transmitted as sacred things from the days of WILLIAM PENN. We need hardly say that the Pennsylvania Germans in the rural districts, and especially in districts peopled wholly or chiefly by themselves, are known to have retained with peculiar tenacity many notions and usages long ago laid aside by their relatives in the old country. In the villages and towns, on the other hand, and in all neighborhoods largely English, the Germans have extensively adopted the language and customs of their English neighbors, almost if not entirely ceasing to be German in every respect but blood. Nothing but isolation has kept any of the descendants of the early emigrants from becoming thorough Americans. And where the German language has been maintained as a living speech, it is not the language of books or of cultivated society, but a mere dialect, or else a mongrel mixture of German and English. In the extensive and educated German communities of the Western States, English is no doubt even now a common subject of study. It is incredible that intelligent people do not desire their children to master the language of the government under which they live, especially as it is one of the noblest and richest of living languages. They will master it for the sake of utilitarian ends, and as they become gradually penetrated with the spirit of republican institutions, they will study it that, duly qualified, they may participate in the political agitations of their time, exert their legitimate influence in the management of affairs, and share in the offices of profit and honor of the great American Republic.

A WASHINGTON special to the Cincinnati *Enquirer* says that Revenue Commissioner Pleasanton is not in accord with Delano's report as Commissioner, in favor of retaining the tax on whisky and tobacco without alteration, but favors an increase of at least fifty cent. in both cases, and will agree his views to Secretary Boutwell in the shape of an elaborate recommendation on these points. It is further stated that he is supported by the President, who has given himself wholly to the policy of Secretary Boutwell, in so far as regards paying off the national debt within the shortest possible time. The dispatch further says that the support of General Pleasanton in carrying out this policy, it appears, was made a *sine qua non* of his appointment, and he is to-day pledged to the furtherance of the extremest protection measures that his party may suggest. In this view of the case it is by no means unlikely that an increase of tax on tobacco and whisky will be recommended; in the former case of a uniform rate of twenty-five cents per pound, and in the latter of one dollar instead of fifty cents per gallon, as heretofore. This impression would seem to be strengthened by the letters written by him to the Department and his friends on the subject in which he urged Mr. Delano to increase the tax on all articles of luxury, and especially that on spirits and tobacco.

All of which may or may not be true, for it makes little difference as the matter is in the control of Congress.

Interesting Bankrupt Case.

Mark Bannister bought groceries worth $300 of Gregory & Co. He was slow pay, and the claim was given for collection to a lawyer, who crowded him, and by degrees got all the money. Within three months the debtor ran away between two days, taking with him money enough to pay all his debts. His estate was put in bankruptcy, and suit was brought by the assignee to recover the money paid to Gregory & Co. for the benefit of the other debtors who had little or nothing left. It was proved on the trial by a Mr. Miner that he informed Gregory & Co. that Bannister was good and abundantly able to pay, but a little slow, and that they had no reason to suppose that he was insolvent when they got the money. In view of this testimony, Judge Smalley, of the United States District Court, at Burlington, Vt., delivered this singular decision, which will astonish business men in this section: "Insolvency, in the eye of the bankruptcy law, means not that a man *cannot* pay his debts, but that he *does not* pay them in the ordinary course of business; that Gregory & Co., having reason to know that Bannister was insolvent, in that sense, when they collected their claim, such collection and payment to them became void. A sword fiand, but—a fraid it the mouth *ing* of the law; and that the $300 must be refunded to the assignee."

SMALL NOTES.

What if the King of Holland does refuse to cede Luxemburg to the Prussians? He can't fight the grand army of the Empire single-handed, and no one in his senses thinks that England will help him, despite her blustering; and Belgium, even if so disposed, would be but a single gulp for that insatiable Gargantuan maw, whose digestive powers are kept in such good condition by Dr. Bismarck with his patent doses of iron pyrites.

Speaking of Luxembourg just reminds one of the great duke of that name who was certainly the most scientific captain of his age. He was born at Paris in 1628, and died in 1695, hence was, during his younger days, a contemporary with Conde and Turenne, under both of whom he served with honor and distinction. In 1675, on the death of the latter, Luxembourg was made Marshal of France. At first he was rather unsuccessful in this capacity, but soon his genius asserted itself, and he captured the cities of Valenciennes and Cambray, in Belgium, compelled the Prince of Orange (William III. of England) to raise the siege of Charleroi, and even surprised by the latter near Mons, conducted the retreat in such a masterly manner that all Europe pronounced him a prodigy. But this was not all. Ten years later (1690) we find him in command of the French army invading Flanders, fighting again the astute, bold Prince of Orange, and defeating him in the bloody battles of Leuze, Steinkirk and Neerwinden—the most murderous of the period. His last great military act was conducting through Flanders with a much superior army in his rear. He died after a few days illness. He, although such a soldier and hero, was weak and deformed in body, and Macaulay calls attention to the fact of such a frail body controlling by mere force of will all the grand elements of so great a fight as Steinkirk.

New York *Times* London correspondence up to December 18th allows that the bombardment of Paris does not take place because the King hesitates, being influenced, and Von Moltke does not see his way clearly to success. The Germans are acting only on the defensive, while the French, daily gathering strength, are learning war rapidly under their German teachers, and may continue the contest yet two years. She is now making a *levee en masse*, her departments are providing artillery—even melting Church bells when necessary for the cause, if Gambetta can keep up his head, must overwhelm the Germans by main force of numbers. Stocks in London, however, indicated the speedy downfall of Paris. In England, very little confidence is put in German despatches, hitherto proved false.

The correspondent thinks, also, that Bismarck will use his best endeavors to deter Russia from her warlike proceedings, at least for the present. After the capitulation of Paris will be time enough to attend to the Eastern question, but "Paris *may* hold out, and Paris is not France." Nor can the question be settled without France.

[To this might be replied that when one dog has another dog down, two or three other dogs are not going to consult the under dog's views concerning the picking of any stray bones; or, if they do, he will more than likely be influenced in his course by the upper dog's opinions.]

Germany might make peace, but Germany loves war too well to do so, unless forced.

The whole letter gives rather an unfavorable coloring to the German cause, and a gloomy aspect to matters concerning the closing of the war. "The hour nor the day no man knoweth," nor can conjecture teach him.

The "hard times" are caused in a great measure by the slip shod manner in which country merchants do business, and the disinterness with which the farmers pay their debts. To illustrate: X, a country merchant, sells to Y, a farmer, on credit. When the time of payment comes round the farmer neglects to pay, or even to put in an appearance. Mr. X knows Y is honest and lets the matter stand. X has bought of Z, a city merchant, a bill of goods for three months' time. Time is up, but X, being a good customer his time is extended. Mr. Z. has bought of an Eastern house. When his bills fall due they must be paid to the moment. Probably Mr. Z. has other customers as X, whose extensions are not up for some time. The result is the announcement: "Mr. Z., one of our merchant kings, failed yesterday; liabilities so much," followed the next day, more than likely, by a cold formula: "Mr. Smith, late Z. & Co., blockaded through the heart in his bathing apartment.

Samples of woolen and worsted goods of American manufacture are being assiduously collected by the British Minister in this country for the International Annual Exhibition. He wishes more particularly specimens of the lower grades, in use among the working classes. Now, our manufacturers will do just as well to "die low" for a while. The whole matter appears to have "something at the bottom of it." Why does he desire more particularly the coarser grades? Do the English manufacturers wish, by comparing them with our finer goods, to get in the shade? They cannot compete with other countries in the production of the finest clothes; do they hence intend to keep such goods in the background, shooting only such as they can make well?

Mr. Frederic Harrison, an English writer of great weight at home, believes that the year 1870 started into one of conquest after the surrender of Sedan. He believes it should now be stopped, and asks the significant question: "Should England interfere in preventing it thus;

"Yes. Prussian ambition now threatens more than France. It should be checked by diplomacy if possible, by arms if necessary, but in the interest of France nor of the French Republic, but in the highest interests of European peace and progress. A coalition of neutral States, with England at their head, is suggested, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland might be united in defensive and offensive alliances. Spain, Italy, Austria, would naturally gravitate in the same direction. The moral weight of such a confederation would probably be great enough to cause Prussia to pause and conclude a reasonable peace.

Santa Anna, the hero with a wooden leg, since more nurse up—he is always turning up just when people think him dead. This time it is said on the eve of some popular or unpopular revolution, but on the back of a general amnesty offered by Juarez to all insurgents. He is very indignant that he (who had lost an important member of his body in the defence of his country," who considered her soldiers his brothers, should be thought a traitor, and in a most grandiloquent, subjectival semi-proclamation styled Benito Juarez a hypocrite "whose actions and deeds are found marked with blood, for our shame, in the ruins of our temples, in proscriptions, the confiscations of goods, and assassinations." He feels thankful, however, that there have been some noble men in his country who could tame and domesticate "this wild beast." Certainly the old General is boiling with indignation—a good deal more mad than when he lost his "important (artificial) member" at Cerro Gordo.

In the Schuylkill region twelve tons of coal one day's labor) were delivered at the mine's mouth for $6 65. The miner had to employ an assistant, $2 25, and furnish his materials &c., $1, leaving him $3 40 per diem. In the Scranton district they made $5 17 daily. The companies on account of the short season and consequent decline of prices, desire to reduce their rates to $3 62, and about $1 75 respectively. Now, during the summer and fall the companies realized a large profit, while the laborers, if they had families, had little more than enough to live on. Why should the former not be content with smaller profits at present, and allow the latter to keep wife and children warm and well-fed during the coming winter.

France has pursued the policy of protection. Belgium has turned the policy of protection. Russia has pursued the policy of protection. England, to within twenty years, has been the most radically protective country on the globe. Portugal, Spain and Italy have ever "bought where they could buy the cheapest," and admitted everything almost or entirely free. The former countries have become manufacturing nations with incalculable wealth and power; the latter have lost what manufactures they had, have been impoverished by the continuous drain on their substance, and are now very low in the scale of the national creation.

Among the first fruits of Grant's Indian policy is the formation of a confederacy of the various tribes, more or less civilized, with the ultimate design of coming into the Union and being represented in Congress like white people. Why this should not be the case is hard to discover, and why it was not thought of long ago, harder. The Sioux, Shoshonees, Nez Perces &c., have long been within the limits of education, they have good schools, can write, read and understand, and are full as worthy of representation as the black race. Some day we may have an Indian President.

Wars are ever changing the geography of countries, and also turning the names of places almost buried in the just oblivion of the past. The last resurrection of this kind is the old city of Vendome—in the department of Loire-et-cher, on the Loire, thirty-nine miles west of Orleans. It sits up from the river to the ruined chateau of its former dukes, and is not a bad *looking* place, even if the good Protestant King, Henry IV., *did* have his seraglio of beautiful frail ones in its immediate neighborhood. Its population is about 8,000.

Could a system of uniform international coinage be brought a boat as, they have in the Postoffice Department now between the United States and Canada, and also between the United States and Switzerland, with enormous saving in time and labor? Fish, there can be no doubt of its being one of the greatest promoters to trade, travel, emigration, mutual increase of international knowledge, and consequent better state of feeling that has ever been an age of improvement. The American coinage would stand the fairest chance of adoption on account of its simplicity. All civilized nations know that ten times ten make one hundred, and ten units make one ten!

PENNSYLVANIA IN THE NEW CONGRESS.

The House Committees—Relative Importance of Pennsylvania and New England.

The Pennsylvania delegation in the next Congress will strongly endeavor to secure fuller representation upon the House Committees. At present, in the Senate, with seventy-four members, has only three chairmanships altogether, to-wit: Scofield, on Naval Affairs; Morrell, on Manufactures, and Cake, on Accounts. But New England, with only twenty-seven members altogether, has fourteen chairmanships, most of them of leading committees. Massachusetts alone has six of her ten members at the head of committees, the most prominent and lucrative in the House. Mr. Dawes is at the head of the Appropriations; Mr. W. B. Washburn of Claims, Mr. Banks of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Butler of Reconstruction, Mr. Banks of Rules, and Mr. Hooper will be at the head of the Ways and Means as soon as Congress meets. Of the only remote men in his country who could tame and domesticate "this wild beast." Certainly the old General is boiling with indignation—a good deal more mad than when he lost his "important (artificial) member" at Cerro Gordo.

The Pennsylvania delegation will make a strong effort that will be made to secure the Chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee for Judge Kelley, in preference to his colleague, Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, who is the New England candidate. In this case, Mr. Kelly's right to the place is clearer on general grounds than is Mr. Dawes's. He has served a long time, and labored especially on this Committee, while Mr. Dawes has devoted himself to the duties of the Committee on Appropriations, from which, too, he cannot be spared, so faithful has he been in the work of retrenchment, which is not yet accomplished.

Is and around New York a large number of persons are out of employment. The hands on the Hudson and Harlem roads are reduced, and every possible superfluity of labor dispensed with. The question to station agents is not how many men do you need? on the other hand the business of each station is examined and its proportion of labor is graduated in the main office. If agents cannot perform the work with the help allowed them they must resign. As a result the working force has been largely cut down, and between New York and Buffalo about 2,000 hands have been discharged. Those who are retained are put on low pay; and that the $300 must be refunded to the assignee."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Cincinnati has a divorce case wherein the parties aggregate one hundred and thirty years in age, and the plaintiff complains of cruel treatment and that she had to fish for a living while her husband was drinking whisky out of a brittania tea-pot.

Two new pumping engines, with a daily capacity of 7,500,000 gallons each, are to be added to the Cincinnati water works at once.

The Postoffice Department is having made at Colt's factory a supply of what is considered the best mail bag lock ever invented. When fastened, a numbered plate of glass covers the key hole, and this glass has to be broken before the bag can be unlocked or the lock tampered with.

There are shipping from New York to France at the rate of five thousand rifles per week. Remington's best revolvers. The funds are raised among French sympathizers in the city, and it is suggested that the proceeds of some of the fairs held for the benefit of the wounded are perverted to the purchase of arms.

The knife with which Payne the assassin assaulted Secretary Seward has been returned, by order of the War Department, to Mr. Robinson, who was Mr. Seward's only helper in that perilous hour. It is a bowie knife, a killing weapon, about two inches wide, the blade firmly fastened into a bone handle, and without spring or clasp. It is marked "Rio Grande camp knife," and was evidently made for just such uses as it was put to.

The reports from the sugar cane districts of Florida continue to be very favorable. The Live Oak *Herald* calculates that sugar can be produced this year at ten cents per pound, and syrup at seventy-five cents per gallon, and that the profit will be much greater than could be realized from the short and long cotton at seventeen and thirty-three cents per pound.

The Ninth (New York) Regiment (Fisk's) is organizing a Golden Band, after the plan of the famous Cadenet Band of Brussels. It will number one hundred, and their uniform will consist of a scarlet Swedish cut coat with blue facings and lappels, sky-blue pantaloons with broad gold-lace stripe, and regulation shako with white pompon. For the fatigue dress they will have a shell jacket of the same material. The uniforms will cost over $6,000.

Another tumor is afloat of a new great daily in New York to advocate protection. Five hundred thousand dollars capital, the amount proposed, will scarcely start it.

Among the strangest of rare laces is a veil given by Nicholas, Emperor of Russia, to the late Truman H. Seymour of Connecticut. It is very large, of exquisite design, and so fragile, so ethereal in texture that when shaken out and cast upon the air it floats like a thistle down and it is many minutes before it will settle in a close room, and then a whispered invitation will start it on its aerial travels again.

The fly-wheel belt of a large engine in Hartford, which in motion, develops electricity enough to ignite a gaslight situated at least six feet from the belt. By presenting the knuckles of one hand to the belt and the point of the finger of the other to the burner, the gas will be instantly ignited.

In a Pekin paper appeared an advertisement, "Wanted, ten good Printers." By broadcast time, the advertisement was run down by dog merchants, with all sorts of specimens of "pointers." As he desired ten of that class of bricklayers known as "pointers," his surprise may be imagined.

The managing mammas of St. John's, Newfoundland, are sorely displeased at the removal of the British soldiers, because the young officers of Britain's best blood made such eligible catches for their beautiful daughters, who never failed to "bring down" their game. Even the shopkeepers complain that the £5,000 annually spent by the soldiers in their stores is not to be "sneezed at." Strange to say, that as the soldiers leave the marriage reappear, after forty years' scarcity, in all their former abundance.

The Labrador cod and herring fishery of last summer has proved a failure, being of less by one half than a third of the average "catch." In consequence many hundred families of our poor fishermen are left destitute for the winter. As a result of this failure, one of the largest mercantile firms in Labrador, the Hunt Brothers, has been compelled to suspend business, and is now declared insolvent, having but by $250,000. Nearly a sixth of the entire business of the country was in their hands. Thousands are thrown out of employment and families famine.

The New York business men, who hired their dwellings three and four years ago on long leases, are now paying far above the present reduced scale of rents. In some cases this excess amounts to thirty-three per cent. and more. All over the country there is a decrease in the volume of business transacted. Not a few merchants claim that during the last year all their profits have gone to landlords, for all of whom stick to the letter of the bond, we may note.

Passaic county, New Jersey, is puzzled to know where the two silver Masonic badges, dug out from 40 below the hard earth excavations of the Midland Railroad, got there. It is well known that in 1857 a party of Masons, while on a picnic, lost the badges in the locality, and that carefully search was made for them, but that can scarcely account for these relics, which are unaccompanied by human remains, and are imbedded in a soil of compact clay.

A California company proposes to plant New York oysters in the mud flats of San Francisco Bay. Samples that were planted there a year ago have grown with extraordinary rapidity, and have lost none of their delicious flavor. The native California oysters are small and tasteless. It is estimated that a million bushels can be sown in San Francisco. The importation of fresh oysters from the Atlantic has proved a failure, the oysters arriving in a damaged condition and costing too much.

Tennessee is becoming less dangerous. In 1868 of all the murders reported to the New York Bureau of Combustibles, 48 per cent. were found to be good, and 52 per cent. bad. But this year, of 4,700 specimens, only 11 per cent. were bad, and 89 per cent. proved to be good.

Specimens of Brazil nuts, unlike any species now known, have recently been found embedded in fir trees discovered in a forest near Calistoga, California.

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The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has decided that by preaching cannot be allowed in the Established Church of England.

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A Michigan court has decided in the case of a man who was arrested and held while taking the oath, that traveling on foot is not "by a public or private conveyance," and sustained an accident insurance company in refusing to pay their policy upon him.

The Detroit *News* has received a box of raisins grown on the Georgia, in Southern Illinois. Mr. Lovell, who says they can be produced as low a price as foreign raisins can be brought there. They were the *Tokay Zante*, a Hungarian grape, which makes an excellent raisin; in fact, says the *News*, "superior to most of the foreign varieties now sold into this market, having a thinner skin and smaller seeds.

There is no end to New York swindles. Now the police have stopped another, in the shape of insurance companies. For some months past certain parties have been giving policies of such insurance companies as the Ninth National of Elizabeth, Fortune of Commonplace, and First National of Pasadena, N.J. Insuring for from $1,000 to $5,000, the rogues made money, even at as low rates as one-fourth per cent. premium.

In pursuance of his project for building a city to wholesale, A. T. Stewart has just bought two brickyards of a capacity of 10,000,000 bricks per annum.

PERSONAL.

The *Brother Jonathan*, a New York paper, of date of March 25, 1851, had this item: "A young Swedish girl, Christine Nilsson, has been sent to Paris by the Royal Academy of Stockholm, to be educated at the expense, as a singer, in consequence of the great beauty of her voice."

Fisk's Grand Opera Bonfie House results in loss, and did he not have the income of the Erie Railroad to sustain him he would soon go to the wall. None of the New York theaters, however, are prospering, but notwithstanding the enormous sum nightly spent at their doors, it is doubtful whether the close of the season will find them any better off.

Mrs. George W. Childs, wife of the Philadelphia *Ledger* editor, is reputed to be one of the finest American vocalists.

Edwin Booth's performances are the most profitable for the public and the managers of any ever experienced in this country.

In California, when the diggings were paying well, a digger flung visited a gulch, and before a large audience exhibited his apprehension. Having made a long entrance he took out his handkerchief, threw it into the air, caught it again, when he took a twenty-dollar piece out of it, asking the boys if they could do that trick. Many attempted it, but they never changed his nursing short since he came into the diggings, immediately went into the gulch, filled his pan with dirt, dipped the tail of it into a bucket of water, held it up and rung out the to in gold dust, to the amount of 25 pounds of gold. Bret took the next mule-train.

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FROM PHILADELPHIA.

First District Election—Gathering of the Clans—Cameron's Scheme for Perpetuating—His Power—Bearing of the First District Election on Matters in the Legislature—The State Treasurership.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

PHILADELPHIA, December 19, 1870.

This city has become the great political center for the time being, and quite a number of the leading political managers from different parts of the State have been here to look after the fight in the First Senatorial district, and to make combinations for the organization and management of the next Legislature. As the result in the First district, to be decided to-morrow, involves the political control of the Senate, there is great an

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(Successors to S. Jones & Co.)

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IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

FOURTH AVE. AND SMITHFIELD STREET.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

TUESDAY EVENING, December 20, 1870.

There is no perceptible change in the condition of the local money market. As is customary at this season of the year, the market works into a close and stringent condition. It is the natural result of an increased demand upon it, and at a time when deposits are low, and customers are wanting discounts. The income to our largest manufacturing and mercantile houses from collections is not a money of what they usually get, and trade being dull adds to the general discomfort. Those who have money to loan are so loth to put it in the shape of paper offered them that even exorbitant rates will not tempt them to purchase, and there is consequently very little paper placed through the brokers.

The fluctuations in Government bonds to-day were light. There was a slight declining tendency, which reduced prices a fraction.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Clos'g.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	113¾	113¾	113¾
U. S. Bonds of 1862	107¾	107¾	107¾
U. S. Bonds of 1864	107¾	107¾	107¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865	107¾	107¾	107¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	109½	109½	109½
U. S. Bonds of 1867	109¾	109¾	109¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	110¾	110¾	110¾
10-40s	105¾	105¾	105¾
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	110¼
United States 6s of 1881	113¼
United States 5-20s of 1862	107¼
United States 5-20s of 1865	107¼
United States 5-20s of 1865	107¼
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	107¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	107¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	110¾
Union Pacific Railroad	82½
Central Pacific Railroad	92
Currency Pacifics	110

Those interested in the workings of the New York stock market to-day will notice another timely item in print—the amounting to the enormous sum of 5 per cent. The *Herald* of yesterday, in a general look at the market, says: Looking at Wall street simply in its legitimate character of a place of the purchase and sale of securities on cash account, upon the "bull" side of the market. They had fainted and manœuvred for several months with anything but gratifying results. Wearied at last of long waiting they compressed their powers into a single blow and made rapid on the money market, which they thereupon decreased exceedingly stringent, and forced a decline ranging from 3 to 6 per cent. In one instance the fall was—taking the highest and lowest quotations of the week—was just 6¾ per cent. In another instance, while the "bears" supported the "bulls" the price advanced in the midst of the general decline and rose to the highest it has attained for many months. The efforts made and the resources employed by the cliques engaged in this onslaught upon the market are, perhaps, the extraordinary on record. Money to the extent of $5,000,000 was locked up, and one of the banks unwittingly made their pool. Defensatory circulars were printed and distributed to the public. One Congressman was supplied with the circular and with prospectuses for Congressional enactments calculated to frighten holders of stocks. Another Congressman was induced to revive the question of the bank's right to divert funds of the New York Central, with a view to add to the general consternation. Not, of course, that the tax is not justly due to the United States, but the revival of the subject originated not in any love of justice, but simply as accessories to the plot in Wall street. They also impugned the integrity of one of the local republics of our commercial organization. The attack was, moreover, the last resort of the "bear" cliques, who were afraid to remain short of stocks on the 15th of the month of interest disbursements, which, other things being equal, are likely to lead to a grand flood tide in prices, which would engulf all minor movements. For one reporter the present season is just like the corresponding season in 1868. In November and December the same locking up of money was resorted to by the bear cliques, and almost the same parties are engaged. The time then was about a month earlier only. Daniel Drew who had quarreled with his confreres in this little combination, went short of Erie, upon which the Pisk-Gould party made a "corner" that cost Mr. Drew, according to street rumor, at least $5,000,000 of dollars loss. The same gentleman is now reputed to be the lender of the "bears," and to be short of his old friend of 1868 to the extent of $3,000,000. The leading antagonist is reported to be Commodore Vanderbilt, who has certainly not struck a soft mark—nothing more delicious than the opportunity to "twist" his old opponent, who sold him Erie at fair as the prices would go, and then saw the whole stock was registered.

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's stock brokerage, Apollo building, No. 86 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 20, 1870.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:30
C. & H.	91	91	91	91	90	90
Do. scrip	88	88	88	88	86	86
Erie	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾
Reading	97½	98	98	98	97¾	97¾
Harlem	129½	129	129	129	129	129
Illinois Central	133½	133	133	133	133	133
Lake Shore	94	94	94	94	94	94
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	96½	96	96	96	96	96
Chicago & Northwestern	69½	69¾	69¾	69¾	69¾	69¾
Do. preferred	83½	83½	83½	83½	83½	83½
Rock Island	104½	104½	104½	104½	104½	104½
St. Paul	55	55	55	55	55	55
Do. preferred	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾
Toledo & Wabash	45	45½	45½	45½	45½	45½
Do. preferred	69½	69	69	69	69	69
Fort Wayne	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
Ohio & Mississippi	36	36	36	36	36	36
Pacific Mail	39½	39½	39½	39½	39½	39½
Adams Express	64½	64½	64½	64½	64½	64½
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	61¾
Philada. and Erie	27¾
Lehigh Navigation	53¾
Catasauqua preferred	37
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	46½
Lehigh Valley Railroad	59
North Pennsylvania Railroad	16½
Camden and Amboy Railroad	118½
Schuylkill Navigation	16
Reading	48¾

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 89 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Railroad Bonds; Railroad Stocks, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, and buys and sells stocks on a margin for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $500 and upwards on collateral or well indorsed promissory notes, or on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, December 20, 1870.

REMARKS.—Since our last there has been no changes worthy of note, nor will there be until after settlement day and the taking effect of the new tariff. Trade, for the season, is good, and as was anticipated—the late heavy shipments of coal and Pittsburgh manufactures sending back heavy remittances of money with which business men will be enabled to promptly meet their obligations and show a handsome balance sheet. The weather, though not cold, is wet and disagreeable, rendering the walks of pedestrians decidedly disagreeable. Flour is still unchanged in price, with a fair trade reported by both mills and stores. All seem satisfied with the present state of the market, and are easy as to the future. Groceries remain quiet and unchanged at previous quotations, with a slightly increased inquiry. Navy beans is daily increasing in volume, but will not be in full supply until after the holidays, when the days of poultry, etc., will measurably pass away. The local markets are still superabundantly supplied.

The following are the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted:

ASHES.—The receipts continue liberal, the supply on the market being sufficient for all ordinary purposes. We are reported sales of refined 55 ₩ cent. at 5½c; common 48 ₩ cent. 3¾c.; pearls 7@7¼c; pearls 9@9¼c.

APPLE BUTTER.—The receipts have increased and prices have declined; we are reported 1 bbl. in a regular way at 6c ₩ gallon.

APPLES.—Prices are tending upward; we are reported sales common to fair $1 75@3 00, and $3 25@3 50 ₩ barrel for choice lots; the receipts increased to 152 barrels against 54 barrels yesterday.

BAR LEAD.—Sales in a regular way at 10½c. ₩ lb.

BLOOM COAL.—Supply liberal, sales at 5c@6c ₩ bu.

BACON AND PROVISIONS.—New meat is being received daily from smoke house. There is also a few hams left, fitted to meet the current wants of the trade since. Prime white D. S. shoulders 12½c; hams 18½@19c; breakfast bacon, clear, 15c; shoulders 12½@12½c ₩ lb. Mess pork is held at $20 00@20 50 ₩ barrel. Lard—sales of new in tierces at 13½c; buckets 14½c; 3 lb. Moore mail 14@14½c ₩ lb.

BEANS.—Regular sales made at $1 75@2 25 ₩ bushel, as per quality.

BRIMSTONE.—Market firm; sales reported at 3½@3½c. ₩ lb.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR.—There is a fair supply, and we quote at $3 25@3 50 ₩ cwt., and $6 50@7 00 ₩ bbl.

BUTTER.—Receipts have falling off, being only 49 packages against 105. Asking rates for fresh roll is [illegible] medium to fair 29@30c.

BUCK MEATS.—We can report fair receipts since our last; 2,672 pieces were received; prices are unchanged.

BAKING POWDER.—Banner, 4-lb cans, $1 75 ₩ doz.; 1-lb cans $3 25; 1-lb cans, $6 ₩ doz.

COAL.—Sales of Knobrn anthracite at $7@7 50 ₩ ton by the car load, delivered.

CANDLES.—In good supply; sales of mould at 12½c; star, full weight, 20c; short weight, 17c; at sixties 18½@19c ₩ lb.

CIDER.—Market well supplied. Prices are without change. Sales at $5@6 ₩ barrel.

CONCENTRATED LYE.—We quote Pennsylvania at $5 75@6 00; Philadelphia $5 75.

CORN MEAL.—Market well supplied; sales in a small way at 90@95c.

CHEESE.—Supply fair, with sales of Sackett's Bells berries at 18½; mixed lots could be obtained at 18@18½c ₩ lbd.

CARBON OIL.—Prices are weak, with sales reported in bonds, in new barrels, at 19c in a jobbing way, and 22c ₩ gallon in small lots.

CRANBERRIES.—The receipts were 289 boxes. Sales are made at the following: Western Reserve 13¾@14c; Ohio factory 15c@15½c; Ohio Goshen 15½@16c; New York Goshen 16@16½c.

DRIED FRUIT.—The supply is fully up to the demand, with sales as the following: Apples 6½c; sliced 8c; peaches, halves 12@12½c; quarters 6½c; sliced 8c ₩ lb.

DUTTER.—There is a fair demand. We quote prunes 14½c; currants 12½c; layer raisins $3 50 ₩ box; Valencia raisins 16c ₩ lb.

FEATHERED HORSE.—The supply is rather in excess of the demand, though the receipts have fallen of to 40 head against 167 yesterday. Sales are made in a regular way at 7½@8c ₩ lb.

HAY.—The market contains a fair supply. We note sales from wagon at $15@16 ₩ ton; car load lots on the landing at $14, 16@17 50 ₩ ton.

HEANUTS.—We can report sales of new crop Tennessee at 6c@6½ ₩ lb.

EGGS.—Strictly fresh ones are held at 31@32c; pickled are offered at 25@26c ₩ dozen.

FLOUR.—Receipts 1,120 barrels. The current rates were as follows: White wheat, fancy brands, at $7 10 in barrels, $6 35 in sacks; Red Winter, fancy brands, $6 75 in barrels, $6 50 in sacks; Buyers, Ohio, brands $7 00 in barrels, $6 75 in sacks; Minnesota, for baker's use, $6 50 in barrels, $6 25 in sacks. Mill rates: National, (white wheat) in barrels $7 25; in sacks $6 95; Pittsburgh, (Keystone amber) in barrels $6 60, in sacks $6 30; Morning Glory, in barrels $6 40, in sacks $6 05; Palmetto, in barrels $6 45, in sacks $6 10.

LARD OIL.—There is a good supply on hand, and sales No. 1 are made at $1 12; No. 2 $1 00@1 05. Cincinnati and Chicago winter strained $1 15 ₩ gallon.

FEATHERS.—This is the season for feathers; receipts light, with sales as follows: Prime No 1 geese, in feathers 80c to the trade; 85@90c in a small way.

HONEY.—The market is steady with a fair trade demand. Prices range from 40@45c ₩ lb.

HUSKS.—Sales made in a regular way at 2½@2¾c ₩ lb.

HAY.—There is no future decline. Last closed at 19@20c.

HIDES.—Dressed 10c higher at $6 40@7; live active and firm at $5 @6 00.

CATTLE.—Dull and nominal.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Cotton active and advanced 1-16c; sales of 2,000 bales; Uplands, 19½c; Orleans, 19½c. Flour quiet and unchanged; superfine Western and State $4 25@4 60; common to good extra Western $4 65@5 00; common to choice $5 05@5 60; choice to double extra $5 65@6 75; common to good extra Ohio $5 05@5 60; common to choice $5 65@6 75; extra Genesee $5 75@6 75; choice to double extra $6 80@7 25; extra Southern $6 75@7 25; extra Western

The Daily Commercial.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Reduction in Teas—T. C. Jenkins & Bro.
Patent Solicitors—Munn & Co.
Holiday Goods for Gentlemen—Putnam's.
Holiday Books and Fancy Goods—S. A. Clarke & Co.
Holiday Presents—Chas. Abel & Co.
Holiday Books—Jas B. Dodge.
Pittsburgh Art Gallery—Opens Friday, 23d.
Bargains for the Holidays—Morgunstern & Co.
Oysters House—The Little Detective.
Trimble's Varieties Theater.
Academy of Music—European Novelties.
Baker Wanted—207 Carson street, South Pittsburgh.
Annual Meeting—Monongahela Navigation Company.
Meeting—Society for Relief of Disabled Firemen.
House for Rent—Box 460, Pittsburgh.
Books for Christmas—McIlwaine's Auction Rooms.
Mantel Ornaments—R. E. Breed & Co.
Elegant China Sets—R. E. Breed & Co.
Show Cattle—George Rolfstein.
Fur and Hat Store—W. Fleming & Co.
China and Queensware—R. E. Breed & Co.
Teas in Road—Checkered Front.
Watches and Jewelry—Schanke & Will.
Silver and Silver-Plated Ware—R. E. Breed & Co.
Swayne's Family Medicines—McClarran & McKennan.
Local Notice—Caroline Elsomer.
Patent Friction Grease—Hartley, McKee & Co.
Burrett's Superior Extracts.
Banker:—S. Holmes & Sons.
Mortgages Wanted—Thos. K. Petty.
Bridal Sets—Bailey & Co.
Residence for Sale—A. W. Lukens.
Cracker Meal—91 and 93 Liberty street.
New Teas—Dilworth, Harper & Co.
Architect—T. D. Evans.
Wanted Crackers—Marvin's.
Wines—Wm. Miller & Co.
Sparkling Catawba Wines—Wm. Miller & Co.
Engines, Tools, &c.—Geo. D. Schultze.
Shears Wanted—Eattelle & Co., Memphis.

LETTER FROM BROWNSVILLE, PA.

Destructive Fire on Sunday—"Graham's Corner" Burned—Several Stores Destroyed—Loss About $12,000.

Special Correspondence of the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, December 18, 1870.

About four o'clock this morning the usual quiet of our town was broken by men, boys, bells and fire-ties, giving the alarm of fire. Snatching ourselves from the delectable embrace of Morpheus, we hurried to the street, where we found what is familiarly known as "Graham's Corner," a large three story brick building, fronting Morgantown and Vine streets, in flames. The block, containing six store-rooms, was owned by William Worrel, who occupied the corner room for a dry goods store, and the room facing Morgantown street as a grocery store. The next room was occupied by William H. Holmes for a rectifying room. Mr. R. D. Morery, boot and shoe merchant, of the adjoining room, succeeded in removing his entire stock. J. Calvert, livery office, confectionary and fruit store. His loss was not heavy. The fire raging in the east end of the building could have been easily extinguished with a fire engine, but as that is a convenience which the aristocratic and enterprising city of Brownsville pay not heard of, and as the fire broke out too high and furiously to be put out by handing water, no effort could be made to save the entire building from the greedy flames, which increased in heat and fury as they reached the rectifying rooms, where, owing to the liberal quantity of "real old Monongahela," accidentally spilled in the liquor from the barrels, did not reach the expectations of the excited crowd. The building had just been fitted up with heavy cornice brackets, and slate roof laid in mortar, with copper valleys, but we have not heard the extent of the loss. The property was supposed to be worth about twelve thousand dollars, however. In a town with a railroad it would have been worth fifteen thousand. We hear Mr. Worrel was insured for five thousand dollars—far short of his loss. Mr. W. is an honest merchant, and worthy citizen, and has the sympathy of the entire city, in which he is well known and beloved. We hope to see him soon started again, with increased prosperity.

BANNOCK.

WHAT IT COSTS.

A Common Evil Illustrated on a Large Scale —Whither Are We Going?

The number of licensed places that sell liquor in New York is over 5,000. The Police Superintendent placed a policeman at the doors of above 200 of these groggeries, and their reports afford an average like this: Each one has daily 134 visitors, and each visit averages fifteen minutes. A statistician may extend the estimate so as to show that the entire number of visitors is 670,269 per day. Three persons on an average are required to attend each saloon, making 15,969 in all. A further estimate gives the cost of the liquor thus drunk at something over $38,000,000.

The Mayor of Chicago does not think it right that his city should have one saloon for every twenty-six adult male inhabitants, assuming the population to be 200,000, and the men one-fifth of the number. A *Tribune* reporter has gone into an examination of the pecuniary results of the Chicago grog shops, which use 1,000,000 gallons of whisky, averaging $2 per gallon in cost. A gallon will make 64 drinks at 15 cents each, and yield $7 60 profit, or $7,600,000 that the entire city in a year pays to the saloons. Other spirituous liquors sell to the amount of about $1,500,000, on which the profit is at least one-half, or $750,000. 800,000 kegs of beer also are drank yearly in Chicago, costing dealers $2 50 each, and yielding 100 glasses at five cents each, or ten cents profit. Ale, soda water, and other beverages not included in the above, may be put down at $500,000 annually, of which $250,000 is profit.

The city's entire annual expenditure for liquor is estimated to be $15,000,000, or $52 per head for every one of the population, babes and all. The liquor sellers on this make a profit of $10,000,000, or $32 from each individual in the city. To this may be added $5,000,000 spent annually on cigars and tobacco, making a grand total of $20,000,000, or $68 66 for each individual. The *Tribune* concludes: It will be seen from the above statistics that drinking, smoking and chewing are indulged in very extensively in this community, and that a large proportion of the earnings of the people is spent to support a large number of men who live by the sale of those articles, all of whom are non-productive and add nothing whatever to the wealth of the city or country. The money spent is absolutely thrown away; for, except in a few instances, it is not necessary to life, and no one can pretend that it is productive of happiness. All the taxes paid in this city, State and Federal—and all the money given to churches and charities—do not amount altogether to the sum expended on liquors. The exhibit is a fearful one, and as well as it indicates that something must be wrong with a community that squanders millions every year and gets no return except the hunger, squalor, wretchedness and misery that follow indulgence in the excitement of intoxication.

STATE POLITICS.

The Clarion *Republican* indorses Hon. Henry C. Johnson, of Meadville, as a fit man to succeed Gen. Hartranft as Auditor General.

A correspondent of the Harrisburg *Patriot* suggests that Dr. John A. Morrison, of Chester county, would make a good Democratic candidate for Surveyor General.

CITY MATTERS.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

Observations Made by the Storm Signal Service of the United States Army.

PITTSBURGH, December 20, 1870.	7:23 A. M.	4:23 P. M.	11:23 P. M.
Height of barometer	29.77	29.79	29.95
Change since last report	.31	.02	—16
Thermometer	25°	22°	19°
Change in last 24 hours	3°	—2°	19°
Direction of wind	S W	W	N W
Velocity of wind—miles per hour			
Pressure of wind—pounds per square foot			
Force of wind reduced to Beaufort scale, approximately	C	D	E
Rainfall since last report—inches and hdths	0.01	0.01	0.01
State of weather	Cldy	Snow	Cldy

NOTES.—In the telegraphic reports, only the variations of the barometer since the last report are given; decrease being marked here, and throughout the table by the minus sign.

Character of the winds to save space, is indicated by letters of the alphabet, as follows: A, just perceptible; B, gently brisk; C, pleasant brisk; D, very brisk; E, high wind; F, very high wind; G, strong gale; H, violent gale; I, storm; J, most violent hurricane.

State of the weather, in the same way, is indicated by numerals as follows: 1, clear; 2, fair; 3, light rain; 4, heavy rain; 5, snow.

JAMES WEST, Observer Sergeant.

List of Unmailable Letters.

The following is a list of letters held at the Pittsburgh Postoffice for want of pre-payment of postage, and on account of misdirection. The writers can get them by applying at the Postoffice:

	Cents.
Mish, J. K., Chicago, Ill	3
Presser, E., Economy, Pa	3
Sando, Jno. G., Parnassitas, Pa	3
Salgrove, B. K., Indianapolis, Ind	3

LADIES' FURS.—Palmer's, 84 Wood street.

CRANE'S compound washing soap—sold everywhere.

BOQUETS and flowers at 137 Liberty street.

ALL kinds of fancy articles for trimming Christmas trees, at Morgan's, No. 2 Sixth street.

THIRTEEN common cases before Mayor Brush yesterday morning.

AGENT APPOINTED.—M. D. Nettleton has been appointed freight agent of the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company.

LADIES' FURS—Palmer's, 105 Market street.

ASK your grocers for Crane's patent soap.

FOOT RACE.—Jackson the coal digger and Arthur Partridge will run a foot race, at Oakland Park, for $200 this afternoon.

LADIES' FURS.—Palmer's, 84 Wood street.

TWO MILLIONS.—P. R. Hill, while in the lock-up for drunkenness on Monday night, represented that he was worth $2,000,000. Consequently he could hardly raise enough to liquidate his fine.

ACCIDENT.—A child of an Italian, named Mollini, residing in Virgin alley, fell down a flight of stairs yesterday and had its arm broken. Dr. L. S. Oldshue reduced the fracture.

CRUSHED.—Yesterday morning a clerk in Lindsay, Sterret & Emner's hardware store, 311 Liberty street, was handling one of a pile of anvils, when it fell down, crushing and cutting his foot somewhat, although not as badly as at first feared.

APPROACHING COMPLETION.—The Nicolson pavement on Fourth avenue, between Market and Wood streets, will soon be completed. The half of the square has been paved, and the balance is ready for the blocks.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.—Mr. Williams, of Robert Williams & Son, undertakers, lodged complaint at the office of Alderman McMasters yesterday, charging Stephen Saunders with embezzlement. Saunders was sent to deliver a coffin and burial case to a person in Greene county, and as alleged, collected the cost thereof and neglected to account for it. A warrant was issued.

LARCENY BY BAILEE.—Mary and Kate Lawton were taken before Alderman McMasters yesterday and held for a hearing on a charge of larceny by bailee, preferred by Henry Rane. The prosecutor is a river man, and alleges that he left eighty-five dollars with the defendants for safe keeping, which they refuse to return and deny having received.

INTERESTING WEDDING.—Mr. H. A. Collier, a well known member of the bar was united in the bonds of wedlock with Miss M. McCandless, niece of His Honor Judge McCandless, in the First Presbyterian Church yesterday at noon. The church was filled and the ceremony was performed in a pleasing manner.

OBTAINED GOODS UNDER FALSE PRETENSES.—Chas. Duffy, a produce dealer from Butler county, entered complaint before Alderman McMasters, yesterday, charging A. McCarthy with obtaining merchandise to the amount of $15, for Messrs. Day & Co., of which he claimed to be a member at a time when the firm was dissolved. Arrested and held for a hearing.

ANOTHER FINE SAFE.

The New Fire and Burglar Proof for the Freehold Bank.

Some time since we gave a brief description of the mammoth $8,000 safe, made by Messrs. Marsell & Urban, of Cincinnati, for the Dollar Savings Bank. Since then, the new safe has been examined by nearly all the bankers in the city and by many merchants. The Freehold Banking Company, No. 100 Fourth avenue—one of the youngest, and yet one of the most vigorous of our banking institutions—have carefully investigated the merits of the safes manufactured by this firm, and agree with the managers of the Dollar Savings Bank, that they are the best safes made.

They accordingly purchased one of their Fire and Burglar Proof Safes, designed for banks not having vaults, at a cost of $2,250. The safe measures, outside, seventy inches high, fifty-one inches wide, and thirty-three inches deep. It weighs eight thousand four hundred pounds, and is a most elegant and substantial piece of work. The fire-proof part is filled with concrete, and the doors have the new patented system of inside bolt-works, which differs from any other fire-proof safe in this—that the bolts and locks are placed on the *inside* of the door, where they are accessible at any time for the purpose of cleaning and oiling, and are protected from the assaults of burglars, and from the effects of fire. On the inside of this fire proof, at the bottom, is securely fastened a splendid burglar proof chest, made of homogeneous steel, so highly tempered that drill can penetrate it, and so tough that it cannot be broken even by sledges. The door of this chest is held with round bolts one and one-quarter inches in diameter, secured by the celebrated Excelsior lock, running about eight hundred thousand changes. Between the outer fire proof doors and this chest are two heavy burglar proof doors, held at all points by doors similar to those on the burglar proof chest, and secured by the Perfection lock, running almost five hundred thousand changes.

In regard to the fire proof qualities of these safes, it is sufficient to say that this house has been manufacturing for over twenty years, and has never had a failure of one of their safes in a fire. Two of the great advantages of the concrete filling are—its dryness, thus preventing the moulding of the books, papers, etc.; and its hardness, giving great strength to the frame in case of falling walls, and in resisting the force of its own weight should it fall from one story to another.

The finish of the new safe of the Freehold Bank is really elegant, and reflects great credit upon the firm and their workmen. The painting is equal to the finest cabinet work, the doors being handsomely ornamented with colored paintings.

The firm, we are informed, to-day, have orders for making all the burglar proof safe for the new Union National Bank building, and also a new double burglar proof safe for the First National Bank. Mr. E. W. Neff, who represents the firm, will remain in the city during the present week, and gentlemen who wish to consult him on business can leave an interview by calling on him at the Monongahela House.

LADIES' FURS—Palmer's, 84 Wood street.

The First Free Concert.

A most excellent thing was inaugurated by the Young Men's Christian Association last evening, and it deserves to be made an institution. To attract the many businessmen and sedentary men, whose only pleasure in the city away from the resorts of evil and vice, is a most deserving object, and we know of few methods more likely to accomplish this worthy end than a choice concert of old-fashioned home music, in a cosy room, filled with ladies and gentlemen. This was what was done last evening, and the happy faces crowding the Association's apartments, corner of Sixth and Penn streets, are most eloquent arguments for frequent repetitions of the entertainment. The music was excellent, and many thanks are due to the well known amateurs who provided it, viz.: Dr. A. G. McCandless, Mrs. R. Breed, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mellor and Miss Mary Scott.

LADIES' FURS—Palmer's, 84 Wood street.

NOT AS IT SHOULD BE.—The proceeds of last night's lecture of Prof. Ebell will not buy any books for the library of the Library Association in the Pittsburgh Female College, and that is not as it should be. Not a score of the audience, that crowded the Chapel a few evenings ago, when the Association gave a *free* entertainment, were there, almost all seeming to have left their pocket-books at home. The collection was